

SECRET

USIB-D-27.2/1  
23 March 1962


UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Merger of COMINT and ELINT Committees

1. On 21 March the Chairman requested that the Coordination Staff develop recommendations for implementation of the 25 July 1961 Board decision ". . . that the COMINT and ELINT Committees should be merged into a single committee " (USIB-M-165, item 6). Attached for Board review is a memorandum regarding this matter which was prepared by the Coordination Staff in response thereto.

2. Pursuant to a further request of the Chairman, the subject matter will be placed on the agenda of the USIB meeting presently scheduled for 28 March, for discussion and appropriate action.



Acting Executive Secretary

Attachment

SECRET

Attachment  
USIB-D-27.2/1  
23 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Merger of COMINT and ELINT Committees

REFERENCE: DCID No. 6/1 and DCID No. 6/2

1. Pursuant to your request on 21 March 1962, the Coordination Staff has prepared recommendations, listed in paragraph 7 below, to effectuate the merger of the COMINT and ELINT Committees as previously agreed by USIB.

2. In its last action on this subject on 25 July 1961 (USIB-M-165), USIB agreed that the COMINT and ELINT Committees should be merged into a single committee, and it was understood that the Chairman, USIB and certain members would consult regarding the chairmanship of the committee and submit recommendations for consideration at an early Board meeting.

3. All USIB member agencies have an interest in, and requirements for the intelligence information derived from COMINT and ELINT activities, and several member agencies have important policy, management, operational and liaison responsibilities in these fields.

4. There are slight differences in the present memberships of the separate COMINT and ELINT Committees in that the FBI and AEC hold memberships on the COMINT Committee only, whereas State, DIA, NSA, CIA, Army, Navy, Air Force, and the Joint Staff are represented on both Committees. The FBI and the AEC have an interest in continuing their membership on the combined committee.

5. New terms of reference will be required for the new combined committee.

6. Regarding chairmanship of the new committee, it is considered desirable by the Coordination Staff that the chairman be chosen on the basis of substantial personal knowledge and experience in both COMINT and ELINT. Such selection based on personal qualifications is believed preferable to designating a particular agency to provide the chairman, in view of the fact that a number of USIB agencies have important

S-E-C-R-E-T

interests and responsibilities in the COMINT/ELINT field. Further, it is considered that a chairman should be prepared to devote most or perhaps all of his time to the development and workload of the combined committee.

7. It is recommended that:

a. USIB members submit to the Chairman, USIB nominations for the chairmanship of the new Committee in accordance with the criteria set forth in paragraph 6.

b. Each agency represented on the present COMINT Committee designate a member on the new Committee.

c. Terms of reference for the new Committee to replace DCID No. 6/1 and DCID No. 6/2 be prepared by the committee for consideration by USIB.

d. The combined COMINT and ELINT Committee be called the SIGINT Committee.



Assistant for Coordination